

Message Text

SECRET

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 078460

FOR NEWSOM FROM OAKLEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, RP

SUBJECT: YOUR MEETING WITH MARCOS

1. DICK AND I TRUST THAT YOU WILL DRAW UPON YOUR GUIDANCE FOR THIS MEETING, PREVIOUS GUIDANCE AND YOUR OWN BEST JUDGMENT IN RAISING WITH MARCOS HIS STATEMENT TO THE PRESS ABOUT ALLEGED U.S. "INDIFFERENCE" TO THE PHILIPPINES. WE ASSUME THAT NERVOUSNESS OVER THE ELECTIONS IS DRIVING HIM TO MAKE SUCH STATEMENTS, EVEN AFTER YOU RAISED WITH HIM EARLIER THE QUESTION OF ENRILE'S COMMENTS ABOUT THE UNITED STATES AND AQUINO.

2. NEVERTHELESS, HE SHOULD UNDERSTAND THAT ONCE AGAIN THE GOP IS SEEN HERE AS FOLLOWING TWO CONFLICTING POLICIES OF TRYING PRIVATELY TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WHILE PUBLICLY LEVYING WILLFULLY DISTORTED CHARGES OF U.S. INTERFERENCE AND INDIFFERENCE. THIS INEVITABLY CASTS DOUBT UPON THE
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ASSURANCES MARCOS GAVE YOU JUST LAST WEEK ABOUT HIS DESIRE TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON BASE NEGOTIATIONS AND AVOID A RETURN TO THE STERILE 1975-76 ATMOSPHERE OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. WITH A NEW, MORE CRITICAL MOOD IN CONGRESS THIS IS ESPECIALLY UNFORTUNATE. VANCE

SECRET

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